IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Harald KLEINE-ALTEKAMP, et al.

Attorney Docket Q60642

Appln. No.: Not yet assigned

Group Art Unit: Not yet assigned

Filed: October 13, 2000

Examiner: Not yet assigned

For: NETWORK ELEMENT WITH REDUNDANT SWITCHING MATRIX

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1, after the title, insert the heading --Background of the Invention--.

line 3 (not including the title or paragraph spacing), delete ", as set forth in the preamble of claim 1".

Page 2, after line 21, insert the heading --Summary of the Invention--. after line 30, insert the heading --Brief Description of the Drawings--.

Page 3,

lines 3-5, delete in their entirety and insert --room.--;

after line 5, insert:

--This object is attained by a network element for a digital communications network, comprising: a number of interface modules, a first, active switching matrix connected to the interface modules for switching paths between the interface modules, a